

Message Text

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SUBJECT: CODEL: STEIGER

1. DRAFT OF REMARKS TO BE DELIVERED BY CONGRESSMAN STEIGER
AT THE OPENING OF TAH IN MOSCOW ON JULY 17 FOLLOWS:

2. MR. AMBASSADOR, HONORED GUESTS, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,
I AM BOTH HAPPY AND HONORED TO BE HERE THIS MORNING TO
REPRESENT THE PEOPLE AND GOVERNMENT OF THE UNITED STATES AT
THE OFFICIAL OPENING OF THIS AMERICAN EXHIBIT, "TECHNO-
LOGY FOR THE AMERICAN HOME."

I CAN THINK OF NO BETTER TIME TO BE HERE IN MOSCOW.
WHILE WE STAND IN THIS PAVILION, AMERICAN ASTRONAUTS IN THE
APOLLO HAVE LINKED-UP WITH SOVIET COSMONAUTS IN SOYUZ.
THE APOLLO-SOYUZ PROJECT IS ONE OF THE BEST EXAMPLES OF CLOSE
INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION BETWEEN OUR TWO COUNTRIES. THIS
JOINT SPACE FLIGHT DEMONSTRATES MORE DRAMATICALLY THAN ANY
OTHER EVENT WHAT CAN BE ACCOMPLISHED WITH CLOSE GOVERNMENTAL
AND TECHNICAL COOPERATION AND WITH A SHARING OF INFORMATION.
THE PATIENCE AND UNDERSTANDING OF THE PEOPLE CONNECTED WITH
THE PROJECT IN TRYING TO UNDERSTAND DIFFERENT SYSTEMS AND
DIFFERENT LANGUAGES OFFERS ALL OF US A WORTHY LESSON.

OF COURSE, THIS PROJECT IS ONLY ONE ASPECT OF THE MUCH
BROADER REALM OF DETENTE. AS AN AMERICAN CITIZEN AND AS A
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CONGRESSMAN, I HAVE FOLLOWED CLOSELY THE STEADY IMPROVE-

EMNT IN OUR MUTUAL RELATIONS. OVER THE PAST FEW YEARS U.S. AND USSR RELATIONS HAVE EXPANDED IN IMPORTANT FIELDS SUCH AS TRADE, EDUCATIONAL, CULTURAL AND SCIENTIFIC EXCHANGE. WE ARE DISCUSSING ARMS LIMITATION IN A MOST PRACTICAL MANNER. THIS HAS BEEN REASSURING BECAUSE OUR PEOPLE AND OUR COUNTRIES NEED TO UNDERSTAND EACH OTHER BETTER AND TO BANISH FEAR OF EACH OTHER FROM THE DIALOGUE BETWEEN US.

DESPITE OCCASIONAL DIFFICULTIES IN THIS NEW TIME, THE COMMITMENT TO THE POLICY OF DETENTE IS INCREASINGLY FIRMLY ESTABLISHED IN EACH OF OUR NATIONS. THIS WAS EVIDENT DURING THE VISIT OF FOURTEEN U.S. SENATORS WHEN THEY CAME TO MOSCOW AT THE END OF JUNE. THE FRANK AND OPEN DISCUSSIONS THEY HELD WITH HIGH SOVIET OFFICIALS AT THE KREMLIN ARE A MARK OF THE SPIRIT OF DETENTE. SUCH WAS THE SPIRIT OF THE DISCUSSIONS BETWEEN PRESIDENT FORD AND GENERAL SECRETARY BREZHNEV WHEN THEY MET AT VLADIVOSTOK LAST YEAR AND SO IT WILL BE WHEN THEY MEET AGAIN LATER THIS YEAR.

IT IS WITHIN THIS FRAMEWORK OF DETENTE THAT THE EXHIBIT "TECHNOLOGY FOR THE AMERICAN HOME" TAKES ON ADDED SIGNIFICANCE. AS AMBASSADOR STOESSEL HAS MENTIONED, THIS IS THE THIRTEENTH SUCH U.S. EXHIBIT TO VISIT THE SOVIET UNION SINCE 1959 UNDER THE US-USSR CULTURAL EXCHANGE AGREEMENTS. DURING THIS TIME A LIKE NUMBER OF SOVIET EXHIBITS HAVE APPEARED ACROSS AMERICA. THIS TYPE OF EXCHANGE HAS BEEN ONE OF WIDE EXPOSURE AND IMPORTANCE, ENABLING MILLIONS OF AMERICANS AND SOVIETS TO GAIN AN INSIGHT INTO EACH OTHER'S CULTURE.

THE HOME IS A GOOD PLACE TO START IN TRYING TO UNDERSTAND ANOTHER CULTURE. IT IS ALSO A GOOD PLACE TO MEET PEOPLE. AS YOU ENTER AND WALK THROUGH THE EXHIBIT, ENJOY WHAT YOU SEE BUT ALSO BE SURE TO MEET THE MANY YOUNG RUSSIAN-SPEAKING AMERICAN GUIDES. THEY, TOO, ARE AN IMPORTANT PART OF THE EXCHANGE PROGRAM AND WELL REPRESENT THE SPIRIT OF AMERICAN YOUTH THAT I HAVE HAD THE PLEASURE OF WORKING CLOSELY WITH IN MY OWN CAREER.

PRESIDENT FORD HAS BEST SUMMED UP THE INTENT OF THE EXHIBIT IN HIS GREETING, SAYING THAT WE HOPE "... THAT THIS EXHIBIT WILL MAKE A CONSTRUCTIVE CONTRIBUTION TO THE DIALOGUE BETWEEN OUR PEOPLES."

I WISH TO EXPRESS MY GRATITUDE FOR THE WARM RECEPTION AFFORDED ME IN MOSCOW. ON BEHALF OF EXHIBIT DIRECTOR FRANK
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URSINO, I WANT TO THANK YOU FOR THE EXCELLENT ASSISTANCE AND COOPERATION GIVEN TO THE EXHIBIT STAFF DURING THE PAST TWO WEEKS. WE WANT YOU TO FEEL AS WELCOME TO THE EXHIBIT AS WE ALL FEEL HERE.

ON BEHALF OF PRESIDENT FORD AND THE PEOPLE OF THE UNITED STATES, I NOW DECLARE THIS EXHIBIT OFFICIALLY OPEN.

3. AWAIT CONFIRMATION.

BREMENT

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